

# Twenty-Fifth Annual Reunion Closes With Ball to Sponsors

## BALL AT GRAYS' ARMORY BRINGS REUNION TO END

Spacious Drill Hall Scene of Brilliant Affair Given in Honor of Visitors.

ATTENDANCE EXCEEDS 1,000

Colonel Jo Lane Stern Leads March, and Dancers Make Merry Until Small Hours of Night, When Farewells Are Said.

The ball given last night for the Confederate veterans, their sponsors and maids in the Grays' Armory, brought to a fitting close the festivities of the week, which have marked one of the greatest reunions in the history of the United Confederate Veterans. The "lamps shone over fair women and brave men" and more than a thousand dancers crowded the ballroom, while hundreds of guests looked on from the galleries. The ball was opened with a grand march, led by Colonel Jo Lane Stern, and cheers and applause greeted the familiar, old Southern airs, which the orchestra played for the assembly.

Looking down upon the brilliant ballroom, thronged with beautiful women, dauntless and valiant veterans, V. M. I. Cadets and numerous other visiting militia, the scene was one never to be effaced from the memory of those who witnessed it. The great hall was hung with garlands of Confederate white and red, and many of the costumes of the women in attendance carried out the same color scheme. From one end of the spacious armory to the other streamers of scarlet and white were hung and pennants and shaded lights were strung from one side of the gallery to the other.

### SCENE OF GOLD LACE AND MANY PRETTY GOWNS

The worn uniforms of many veterans were to be seen beside the glittering gold lace and braid of the staff officers and other soldiers present, and in and out of the dance went the pretty gowns of the pretty girls who were them. Quaintly lovely and feminine they looked, these girls who have gathered here this week to represent the Lost Cause, and all court and honor was paid them by the battle-scarred men for whose divisions they stood sponsor.

The whole affair went with a gayety and abandon that was enchanting, and the entrances of the Grays' Armory poured into the ballroom a wonderful stream of distinguished men and women.

### DATE SET FOR HEARING

Dawell Chester Investigation Begins in Fredericksburg August 9.

Investigation of the charges against Judge H. H. Chester of the fifteenth circuit, will begin on August 9, in Fredericksburg, before a joint committee of the General Assembly, appointed at the extraordinary session in March. The committee, of which Deleware, of the Senate, is chairman, met in Richmond yesterday and fixed the date and place for the beginning of the hearing of the charges brought by Delegate S. P. Powell, of Spotsylvania. Delegate Powell alleged that Judge Chester has used his judicial position for the advancement of political interests.

### REUNION CONCERT WILL BE REPEATED SATURDAY

Walter C. Mercer Issues Call to Members of Great Chorus to Repeat Program.

In response to urgent requests from a great number of Richmond's music lovers, who were unable to gain admission to the City Auditorium on Wednesday night, the concert given by the Walter C. Mercer chorus, has been arranged to be repeated on Saturday night.

He has, therefore, issued an appeal to all who took part in the concert on Wednesday, either in the chorus or the orchestra, to join in making the entertainment on Saturday night as successful as was the great concert of the previous night.

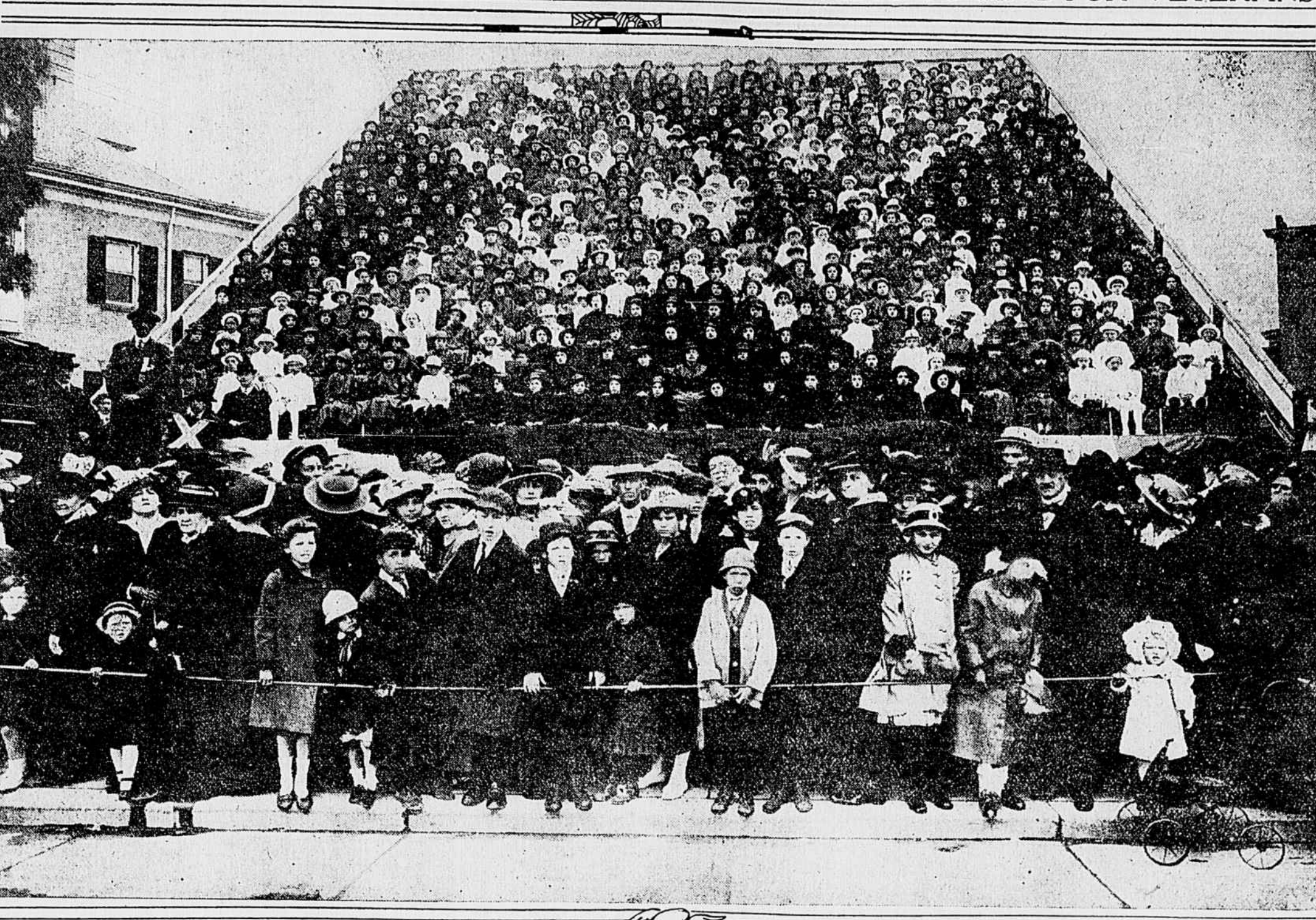
Mr. Mercer expects to present the same program as that offered Wednesday night, but fully realizes the need of those who contributed to its success before.

### CHORUS CALLS ON CHOR

TO BE IN PLACE

The members of the Reunion Chorus and the Reunion Orchestra, who have been requested to repeat the concert given on Wednesday night, are making arrangements to do so. The chorus, which is made up of men and women, is expected to be in place at the City Auditorium at 8:30 o'clock, and the orchestra at 9:00 o'clock. The concert will be given at 9:15 o'clock, and will last until 11:30 o'clock. The program will be the same as that given on Wednesday night, and will include a variety of songs and instrumental pieces. The chorus is expected to be in place at the City Auditorium at 8:30 o'clock, and the orchestra at 9:00 o'clock. The concert will be given at 9:15 o'clock, and will last until 11:30 o'clock. The program will be the same as that given on Wednesday night, and will include a variety of songs and instrumental pieces.

## SCHOOL CHILDREN OF RICHMOND FORM HUMAN FLAG TO SING FOR VETERANS



—Photo by Foster.

### Notes of Interest About the Reunion

Veterans Enjoy Old Stories of Camp Life During War-Time Days.

Thomas B. Stubblefield, who has served through several reunions with Captain A. Brown as headquarters clerk in camp and at registration headquarters, has won high praise for his indefatigable labors. This year, both at Camp Stuart and at the Main Street office of the Entertainment Committee of the reunion.

Previous experience enabled Clerk Stubblefield to render Captain Brown's committee greater service this year than ever before. Peevish and irritable old soldiers applying for information or accommodations are almost invariably turned over to Stubblefield by the address in handling these difficult customers has been a source of wonder and admiration to his co-workers, but even Stubblefield has met baffling cases this week.

His attention being directed yesterday to a grizzled old veteran, who had been sitting in a chair in a lunch room opposite registration headquarters for half an hour, gazing hungrily at the customers devouring sandwiches, pies and other refreshments. Stubblefield, at his office, went to the place and thrust a meal ticket into the old soldier's hand.

"Here's a ticket for a meal, colonel," he said. "Why didn't you come to us for it? We are looking out for you. You mustn't go hungry."

The old soldier waved him away. "You may be a smart city feller, but you can't fool me," he retorted. "I ain't no sucker, not me. If you don't let me be I'll call the constable and have you put in the lockup."

Clerk Stubblefield spent a quarter of an hour trying to convince the old fellow that the meal ticket was negotiable. Then he called the manager of the restaurant to certify to the validity of the ticket. The veteran shook his head, rose and shuffled toward the door.

"I was looking for you to bring in your partner," he said, craftily, as he left the place. "I know you fellows. You're in cahoots."

"Yes, Richmond looks considerably different from what it did when I left here in 1865," mused Daniel M. Vaden, of Apopka, Fla. "Then The Dispatch was published somewhere up near the Capitol. I don't know precisely where. Now you are in a tall building, and I reckon the next time I come you will be in a still taller building."

"I claim to be the youngest living Confederate soldier," enlisted artilleryman, Mr. Peter F. Vaden, a lieutenant in that company. "I served first as drummer, then as bugler and later as driver. I procured an honorable discharge at Petersburg in 1864."

### General Young Accepts Election

Appoints General William E. Mickle Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

Chosen in his absence and while on a bed of sickness, for the fourth time as adjutant-general of the United Confederate Veterans, General Bennett H. Young yesterday wired his acceptance and entered a general order naming General William E. Mickle as adjutant-general and chief of staff.

The telegram of acceptance follows: "Louisville, Ky., June 2, 1915. United Confederate Veterans' Association, Richmond, Va. This renewed evidence of the faith and trust of my comrades fills me with immeasurable gratitude. It is another demonstration of the character of the survivors of the Southern cause—they will not forget those who have served them, and who have done their duty to stand for the great truths for which the Southland gave and suffered so much. For the fourth time you have elected me to what, in my opinion, is the highest office among men. To be your commander is from my viewpoint, a nobler distinction than to be President of the United States. I have asked no man's vote. I declined to do this, feeling that it was incompatible with the dignity of the great office. This election has come to me, in so far as I am personally concerned, unsolicited, and this makes it all the more gratifying and satisfying."

With benedictions for all my comrades and those they love, I pray you may reach your homes in safety, and that you may long continue the useful and beautiful lives that have marked your careers in the past, and that the cause of each of you may be crowned with the best and noblest that this world can give."

General approbation has been expressed in Richmond, by both the citizens and the veterans, of the Government's Post Guards of Connecticut taking part in the parade yesterday, which demonstrates the fact that all feeling between the two sections is forever killed. This is the first time on record that a Northern military organization taking part in a Confederate reunion.

Probably the fact may have been overlooked, but in hotel lobbies comments have been heard from both Northern and Southern people on the fact that the annual reunion of the Confederate veterans are the most largely attended and enthusiastic of any held by any similar organization in the world. There is also no record in history of similar gatherings being held by the losing side in a great war. "It only shows conclusively that our side was right, and we knew it," said a veteran.

Miss Louise Carolyn Morgan, of Columbus, Miss., the attractive maid of honor for Forrest Cavalry, has been one of the most extensively entertained of the large number of beautiful girls here in connection with the reunion. Miss Morgan, who is accompanied by her mother, is a guest at the Jefferson Hotel.

Officers of the Confederate Reunion of 1915 speak in complimentary terms of the foresight and kindly consideration shown toward the multitude of visiting veterans by the Southern Railway in sending to Richmond thirty-three picked men of the special service department of the railroad to serve as guides for the old soldiers at the stations, and to protect them from crooks in the city and at Camp Stuart.

At the railroad stations eighteen of these special men have been on duty since last Monday in uniform. Twelve special agents in plain clothes were detailed for detective service to cooperate with the Richmond police in protecting the old soldiers. The body of special men operated under the personal supervision of J. W. Connelly, chief of the special service department of the road.

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### CAMP STUART TO REMAIN OPEN FOR VETERANS

Many Will Stay Here To-Day and To-Morrow as Reunion Guests.

Small Parties Being Made Up for Trips to Battle Fields and to Nearby Cities Before Leaving for Distant Homes.

While the evacuation of Camp Stuart by veterans who are guests of the Confederate Reunion Association of 1915 will begin shortly after daybreak this morning, several thousands of the old soldiers will remain to enjoy the hospitality of the camp to-day. Many will not depart until to-morrow afternoon.

The order to break camp will not be given until to-morrow night. That was decided upon yesterday by the entertainment committee of the reunion. The inclement weather of the last three days has deprived the old soldiers of the pleasure of sightseeing in comfort, and for this reason it was determined to maintain Camp Stuart for their benefit until the end of the week.

The news was joyfully received by the veterans yesterday. Hundreds preparing to return to their homes abandoned their packing and announced their intention to remain until Saturday afternoon.

### SOUTH CAROLINA CAMPS LEAVE TO-DAY

The first body of veterans to depart from Camp Stuart will be the South Carolina camps. They leave Richmond for their homes at 5:30 o'clock this morning. It being necessary for them to depart before the breakfast hour of the camp, meal tickets were issued to the South Carolinians by Clerk Tom Stubblefield at registration headquarters last night.

Most of the Texas veterans left the camp last night, a few departing on late trains. The remainder joined comrades quartered in the city, and will leave for the South to-day. Several hundreds of the veterans who came to the reunion traveling individually left the city last night. Many of these went to Washington, Norfolk, Newport News and other cities. They are sightseeing and out for a pleasure tour.

A large body of Mississippians and Louisianians will travel together to Washington, departing this morning. A large party from Memphis is also returning home this morning.

There was no lack of blankets or other necessities at Camp Stuart last night. Early in the evening Captain David A. Brown and his staff, including Adjutant Frank Z. Brown, made a tour of the camp to make sure that every old soldier was comfortably provided for. They were met everywhere with expressions of the grateful appreciation of the old soldiers, who spoke enthusiastically of the entertainment provided for them since they arrived in camp.

### Commencement Exercises.

The commencement exercises of the Richmond Academy will be held to-night at 8:30 o'clock at the Richmond College chapel, at Westhampton. The graduating address will be delivered by the Rev. John W. Shackford, pastor of the Broad Street Methodist Church. The address was to have been delivered by General Robert White, of Wheeling, W. Va., but he will be unable to be present because of illness. The invitations that have been sent out for the exercises bear the request, "No Flowers."

### New Market Mother Guest at Reunion

Mrs. Eliza C. Crim, Who Nursed Wounded After Battle, Is Given Ovation.

Mrs. Eliza C. Crim, officially recognized as the "Mother of the Virginia Military Institute Cadets," a title conferred upon her by the Alumni Association, appeared in the lobby of the Jefferson Hotel yesterday, escorted by her brother, Colonel John W. Clinedinst, commander of Neff-Rice Camp, U. S. V. of New Market, and her nephew, J. B. Clinedinst, State commissioner of labor, and her arrival was hailed with delight by the veterans of many camps, to whom she is well known.

A smiling, good-humored grand dame is "Mother" Crim, as the veterans and cadets affectionately call her. Although in her seventy-seventh year her benevolent countenance, aglow with the ruddiness of vigorous health, has been spared the corrugated lines of the hand of time is wont to lay upon the features of women of her advanced age. Mrs. Crim says she feels as young as forty, and she looks it. She has a personality that fairly radiates gentility.

The charming old lady was the center of attraction for an hour in the hotel lobby, where she was showered with tributes of the affection of her "boys," many of whom had snow-white hair, while her abundant locks are but a deep shade of gray.

Among the trophies "Mother" Crim wore upon her breast was a medal in the form of a Roman cross, bearing this inscription: "For Valor." On the obverse side of the medal appears the following: "V. M. I. to Mrs. N. C. Crim, mother of the New Market Cadets, from the Alumni Association."

Mrs. Crim was Miss Eliza Clinedinst, of New Market, when the historic battle in which the V. M. I. cadets participated was fought. The fierce fighting took place in the orchard of her father's estate. After the battle many of the cadets, among them the late John S. Wise, were brought to her home, and were tenderly nursed by the daughter of the house.

"Poor young Tom Jefferson Davis, a brave, handsome young fellow from Amelia, I will never forget. He was badly wounded. Cadet Moses Ezekiel, who afterwards became known to fame as Sir Moses Ezekiel, sculptor, carried young Tom, his classmate, from the field into the house. But we couldn't save him. He died."

Although more than half a century had elapsed, the picture she described was vivid to "Mother" Crim, as she related the story, and her eyes moistened. But her disposition is too buoyant to permit her long to dwell upon her reminiscences. A minute later she was relating an amusing incident of her experiences with the host of young soldiers that the battle of New Market threw upon her hands.

### Times-Dispatch Serenaded.

The Times-Dispatch was treated yesterday morning to a serenade by the Stonewall Brigade Band of Staunton. Before going in the parade, the Staunton organization marched to Tenth Street, took its stand in front of The Times-Dispatch building and rendered a number of delightful airs. Windows were hoisted and all of the various employees of the paper on duty at the time, heard the music with every evidence of enjoyment. Hearty applause was given from the windows of the building as the natty organization finished its program and fled away to get in the big procession.

## TIDE OF TRAVEL NOW AWAY FROM RICHMOND

Speeding Trains for Points Far and Near Carry Reunion Visitors Homeward.

### EXODUS STARTED WEDNESDAY

Weather Too Much for Many Veterans, and Rather Than Stay and Face It They Departed—Transportation Problem Well Handled.

The survivors of the gray army of the South, after three days spent around rekindled camp-fires in Richmond—days that were full of enjoyment, no matter if the weather seemed to have conspired to break up the great annual Confederate gathering—turned their faces homeward. This drum beat that a few days hence signaled their arrival on scores of special trains, yesterday afternoon and last night marked their departure from the capital of the Confederacy, where reunions always have a significant place, attached to them at no other place. Their memories charged with scenes and incidents that will linger long as a source of joyous reflection, the grizzled old veterans from all quarters of the city moved toward the various railroad stations, many of them with shoulers wrapped in army blankets to shield them from the cold and drizzling rain, and boarded their trains for the journey home to await the return of the time for the next reassembling, which, alas for many of them, will probably never come.

### EXODUS OF VISITORS BEGAN ON WEDNESDAY

The exodus of the veterans really began on Wednesday. For many of them the weather proved a hardship too great to be borne, and sooner than they had planned, with many of the anticipated pleasures untested, they gathered up their belongings and hastened to start for the comforts and conveniences of home. Not a murmur was heard as to the entertainment given by Richmond, but with all that human ingenuity could devise the depressing influence of the never-ceasing rain could not but be felt, and hundreds of veterans and visitors left sooner than they had intended, every out-going train Wednesday and Wednesday night having extra coaches crowded with people bound for points far and near all through the South.

But the great tide of travel did not get under way until late yesterday afternoon and last night. Thousands had waited to be in or to witness the grand parade. At Main Street station, at the Byrd Street station, and at the temporary passenger station of the Southern Railway at Fourteenth and Cary Streets, there was a seething throng of people, many of them gray-clad, waiting for the trains to roll in that would convey them homeward. Every regular train had extra equipment, and a number of special trains carried the quota of passengers. Thousands more of reunion visitors will take their departure to-day, and by nightfall the exodus from Richmond will be approaching normal again.

### TRAIN SERVICE A STRONG FEATURE OF THE REUNION

The train service was one of the strong features of the big annual celebration. Tens of thousands of people were without special and on regular trains without a single serious accident occurring. A few trains were delayed in reaching here, owing partly to the extraordinary heavy business, but in the main they came in on schedule time, and the passengers benefited by the treatment accorded them by the transportation companies.

A small army of railroad representatives, representing nearly all departments of transportation business, but particularly the passenger department, were assembled here during the reunion, working like Trojans to cope successfully with the big problem that confronted them.

### CADETS ABANDON PLAN TO MARCH TO BATTLE FIELDS

May Visit Seven Pines To-Day—Further Plans Will Depend on Weather Conditions.

Because of the continued inclement weather, the proposed practice march of the Virginia Military Institute cadets to the battle fields around Richmond, has been abandoned. Announcement to this effect was made yesterday afternoon by General E. W. Nichols, superintendent of the Institute, who has headquarters at the Jefferson Hotel.

General Nichols said that in view of the condition of the weather and out of consideration for the health of the cadets, the orders for the march, which would have begun this morning, had been canceled. It had been planned for the cadets to leave the Grays' Armory at 7:30 o'clock, camp to-night at Frazer's Farm, to-morrow night at "Curlew Neck," and Sunday night at Nelson's Farm, returning to Lexington on a special train Monday.

Tentative orders were issued to the corps last night for a march to Seven Pines this morning, but in view of the weather is favorable. The plan is for the cadets to have luncheon at or near Seven Pines and return to the Grays' Armory this afternoon. The movement of the corps after to-day will be governed by weather conditions, the superintendent said, and no further orders will be given until to-night.

All along the line of the reunion parade yesterday the cadets from the "West Point of the South" received ovations. Acting as the personal escort of Governor Henry C. Stuart, they held a prominent position in the line, and here and there a group of alumni—some of them veterans, game the V. M. I. yell—the "old yell" that was used at New Market in 1864.

### PRINCIPALS TO MEET

Will Discuss Matters Relating to Welfare of Public Schools.

The school principals' department of the State Teachers' Association will meet at the University of Virginia, June 17-18, for the discussion of subjects relating to their profession. The officers of this department think there is too little time at the annual conference for a full discussion of these subjects. It is the first time that such a meeting has been attempted, and those responsible for it are especially anxious for a large attendance.

R. C. Stearnes, State superintendent of public instruction; Harris Hart, Alger Woolfolk, Professor Charles G. Haphis and others will deliver addresses. Among the subjects for discussion are: The retired teachers' fund, tenure of office and salaries.